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SPORTS
With second-half blitz, Frogs tie school-record win streak 1B

SPORTS
Extreme boost? Cowboys excited to have Ezekiel Elliott back 1B

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FORT WORTH 'WHERE THE WEST BEGINS'
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Chance of storms 58°/49° See 9A

Star-Telegram

Trustees OK ethics policy, land offers for new school

BY DIANE SMITH
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FORT WORTH

The Fort Worth school district is making final offers for vacant land owned by a Jewish congregation and a bank in southwest Fort Worth for the construction of a new pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade campus in the Tanglewood Elementary attendance zone.

The board voted 7-0 to approve the offers after trustees met in closed session to discuss them.

"We are going make final offers and see how it received," Superintendent Kent Scribner said.

Also, Monday, the board approved the second reading of a new ethics policy with a 6-2 vote. Trustees Ashley Paz and Norman Robbins voted against the policy, and Trustee Jacinto Ramos was not present for the vote. The two issues were part of a special meeting that grew contentious as trustees rehashed how a 4-month old policy became the focus of public outcry when it was rescinded in August.

The meeting drew several residents who wanted the board to make a stricter ethics policy. Some held signs that read: "#ethicsmatter #accountability #transparency."

Seven people criticized trustees during the public comment portion of the meeting. After the vote, several people expressed their dismay.

"The board, FWISD board, made a mockery of parents, teachers and taxpayers when they failed to reinstate the ethics policy," said Zeb Pent, spokesman for the group Stand for Fort Worth. "They have shown that rules don't apply to elected officials only private citizens."

SEE SCHOOLS, 8A

RANGERS BRING GIFTS, SMILES TO COOK CHILDREN'S

BOB BOOTH Special to the Star-Telegram

Above, Abigail Grubauzh, 17, removes her protective mask Monday to smile for a photo with Texas Rangers infielder Elvis Andrus, who was part of a contingent that made the team's annual holiday visit to Cook Children's Medical Center. At right, Rangers mascot Captain signs an autograph for Daniel Smith, 14.

With 58 days left until pitchers and catcher report to Surprise, Arizona, members of the Texas Rangers gathered Monday at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth for an annual gift-giving appearance for patients and their parents.

The event annually signals that a new season is rapidly approaching, but shortstop Elvis Andrus, for one, said he didn't want to talk about that. He's trying to stay in the moment.

"You look forward to this every year and it's one of those amazing activities that we do as an organization and brings happiness to the kids and us also," he said. "But [the offseason has] really gone by too quick and I want to enjoy whatever's left." Story, 4B

JOHN FROSCHAUER AP

The Amtrak train was going 81.1 mph about a quarter-mile from the point where it derailed, where the speed limit is significantly lower.

Amtrak train derails, killing at least 3

BY RACHEL LA CORTE, GILLIAN FLACCUS AND MICHAEL SISAK
Associated Press

DUPONT, WASH.

An Amtrak train making the first-ever run along a faster new route hurtled off an overpass south of Seattle on Monday and spilled some of its cars onto the highway below, killing at least three people, injuring more than 100 and crushing two vehicles, authorities said.

Attention quickly turned to the train's speed. A website that maps location and speed using data from Amtrak's train tracker app showed the train was going 81.1 mph about a quarter-mile from the point where it derailed, where the speed limit is significantly lower.

Seventy-seven passengers and seven crew members were aboard when the train derailed and pulled 13 cars off the tracks. Authorities said there were three confirmed deaths and more than a dozen people with critical or serious injuries.

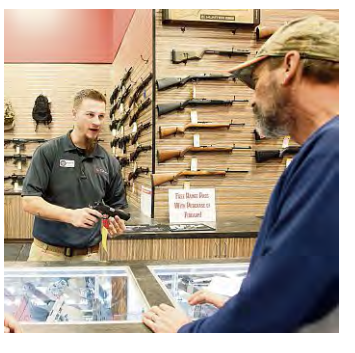
About two hours after the accident, a U.S. official who with others was briefed on the investigation said he was told at least six people were killed. No additional briefings were provided by late afternoon, and the

SEE TRAIN, 9A

LOCAL

H-E-B INCHES CLOSER TO FORT WORTH

Plans for the store have been in the works for four years. 3A



LOCAL

NRA: POLITICAL PRAGMATIST

The National Rifle Association gets pragmatic, backs background-check fix. 5A

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